NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE
NEWS

Vol. XXIV, No. 12 Bethesda, Maryland 20014 December 1969

The Basic Hospital Library

The Library has prepared a new exhibit entitled "A Basic Hospital Library." Its purpose is to offer guidance to hospitals wishing to improve their information resources and services for practicing physicians.

This small, but comprehensive, hospital library consists of a well-selected basic collection of textbooks, reference works, and journals, occupying minimal space, and costing a relatively small amount. When used properly, it is believed that the collection can effectively satisfy most of the practical, everyday, bibliographic needs of physicians in the diagnosis and treatment of clinical problems.

The basic library incorporates the concept of the "Core Medical Library" developed by N. Stearns and W. Ratcliff, augmented with the new NLM monthly *Abridged Index Medicus* and the 100 journals indexed therein. *AIM* is primarily oriented to clinical medicine and to the needs of the hospital-based physician.

Materials in the exhibit are functionally classified by medical specialty, in order to enable readers to find at a glance materials in given subject areas which might not otherwise come to mind. Color-coded labels on the shelves and books indicate the various specialty fields. Labeling will also speed assembly of the exhibit at each location.

The exhibit consists of two adjoining journal racks 10' x 6'8" and a book rack 12" x 36" x 6'8" that acts as a support for the journal rack. There are five adjustable shelves and a panel for decorative and explanatory material.

A qualified person will be in attendance to explain to library patrons how they may obtain further backup services available on a regional and national basis, including reference services, interlibrary loans, and either conventional or computer-produced bibliographies. The exhibit is thus planned to demonstrate how, with the assistance of a trained library supervisor, the scope and value of the basic library can be increased.

On February 5, 1970, the "Basic Hospital Library" will be introduced to a group of D. C. hospital library supervisors during a workshop sponsored by the D. C. Regional Medical Program. The exhibit will travel for the first time to Chicago for the Congress on Medical Education, February 6-9, 1970. It will ultimately be made available to Regional Medical Libraries, Regional Medical Programs, and other groups interested in local library services.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
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National Institutes of Health

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NEWS

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Published monthly by the Office of Public Information, National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health, for health science libraries, the health professions, and news media.

Use of funds for printing this publication approved by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, January 18, 1963.

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Toxicology Information Sources Listed

The National Referral Center for Science and Technology, Library of Congress, with support from NLM's Toxicology Information Program, has compiled and published *A Directory of Information Resources in the United States: General Toxicology*. The directory contains descriptions of more than 750 activities which meet information needs in various fields relating to toxicology. Each library, laboratory, information center, museum, etc., is described according to its toxicology-related interests, over-all holdings, publications, and information services.

A directory of poison control centers and listings of some U.S. journals and representative professional societies active in toxicology are included as appendixes. Subject and geographic indexes are provided.

In supporting the production of this directory, the Toxicology Information Program is fulfilling one of its responsibilities to improve the handling and availability of toxicological information, and to serve as a national center for toxicological information.

The new directory is available for $3.00 from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402.

Exhibits Current and Future

December 29, 1969 marked the 50th anniversary of the death of Sir William Osler, teacher, bibliophile, humanist, and beloved physician. To commemorate that anniversary, the Library mounted an exhibit, on display from December 22 to January 5, honoring Osler, one of the great figures of modern medicine.

A standing panel of photographs of Osler with colleagues, students, and friends was flanked on one side by a case of books by and about Osler, and on the other by a case containing manuscripts. These included letters and records relating to "Osler and the National Library of Medicine" and "Osler the Historian."

Following the Osler exhibit on January 5, an unusually rich display on medical quackery comprising not only printed and pictorial materials, but an abundance of actual "quack" devices and gadgets once touted to the American public as miraculous cure-alls, was placed in the NLM Lobby. This exhibit will be there until April 24.

NLM exhibits are open to the public during the Library's regular hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., and Saturday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Asian and Pacific Area (MEDLARS Operations) Visited

Mr. Alfred R. Zipf, Chairman of the Library's Board of Regents and Executive Vice-President of the Bank of America, San Francisco, and NLM Director Martin M. Cummings, M.D., recently visited a number of countries in the Pacific area in which the Library has MEDLARS, PL 480, or other NLM projects.

After a brief stop in Honolulu, where they met with faculty and administrators of the University of Hawaii School of Public Health, Dr. Cummings and Mr. Zipf flew to Australia. Their first stop was in Sydney, to inspect the Basser Computer Center. In Canberra, their next destination, a tour of the National Library of Australia was followed by a meeting with members of the Medical Research Council of Australia, which supports the Australian MEDLARS Center. The final stop in Australia included a visit to the University of Melbourne Medical Library.

Mr. Zipf and Dr. Cummings then spent several days in New Delhi, conferring with officials of the Ministry of Health and the National Medical Library of India on various cooperative projects with NLM. Review of the NLM Indexing Project at Keio University in Tokyo preceded a conference at the Japanese Information Center for Science and Technology, where they negotiated an agreement to establish a Japan-based MEDLARS Center.

TIP Staff Member Named to Editorial Post

Mr. A. Leon Moore, a member of the Products and Services staff, Toxicology Information Program, NLM has been named a contributing editor for the *International Pharmaceutical Abstracts*. A publication of the American Society of Hospital Pharmacists, *IPA* is devoted to all phases of the development and use of drugs and to the professional practice of pharmacy.

As a contributing editor, Mr. Moore will select and abstract articles in the area of pharmaceutical research. Mr. Moore, a native of Oklahoma, joined the TIP in June 1969, after having served at the USPHS Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, as a Hospital Pharmacy Resident in the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service.

New Film Catalog Available

A 318-page catalog of 8mm medical and health-science films has been compiled by the Communications Division of the University of Nebraska Medical Center, under a research grant from the National Library of Medicine.

The catalog contains more than 1,000 listings of medical and health-science films which have been produced both commercially and privately. Entries describe content, length, sound or silent, color or black and white, regular or super 8mm, type of cartridge, intended audience, distributor, and price per print. The publication also includes a distributor list and a summary of a recent survey of 8mm film use in health education institutions.

Copies are available, at $3.50 each, from Mrs. Reba Benschoter, Project Director, Communications Division, University of Nebraska Medical Center, 602 South 44th Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska 68105.

1969 Cumulated Index Medicus

The 10,269 pages which will comprise the 1969 edition of *Cumulated Index Medicus* have been processed, reviewed, and sent to the Government Printing Office. These pages will be bound in a set of eight books, rather than five, as in 1968. The increased number of volumes will reduce the average number of pages per volume to about 1,300 -- thereby diminishing the bulkiness and binding problems reported for previous cumulations.

The 1969 *CIM* is scheduled to appear in late winter or early spring, 1970. Additional ordering information, including price, will appear in the *NLM News* as soon as it is made available by the Superintendent of Documents.

Erratum

The November *News* incorrectly stated that the 1968 *NLM Current Catalog* (annual) would be available in the spring of 1970. The 1968 annual is currently available from the Superintendent of Documents for $14.25; it is the 1969 edition which will be available -- for the same price -- in 1970.

Personnel

Mr. Albert M. Berkowitz has been named Deputy Chief of the Reference Services Division, succeeding Mr. Edward A. Miller, who retired from Federal government service at the end of October. Mr. Berkowitz came to NLM in 1966 as head of the Loan and Stack Section, RSD. He holds a B.S. in business administration from New York University, and an M.S.L.S. from the Catholic University of America.

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